

***Meeting of the Children's Cabinet***

*Monday, December 17, 2018*

*2:30 – 4:00 PM*

*Patrick Henry Building, West Reading Room*

*1111 E Broad St., Richmond, Virginia 23219*

***DRAFT MEETING MINUTES***

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**Members Present:** First Lady Pamela Northam, Lieutenant Governor Justin Fairfax, Secretary Daniel Carey, Secretary Atif Qarni, Secretary Brian Moran, Secretary Bettina Ring

**Members Absent:**

**I. Introduction**

First Lady Pamela Northam welcomed the Children's Cabinet and the members of the public attending the meeting. She provided an overview of the presentations that the attendees would hear, and invited Chief School Readiness Officer Jenna Conway to the podium.

**II. Update from the Work Group on Early Childhood Development and School Readiness**

Chief School Readiness Officer Jenna Conway provided an update on the Work Group on Early Childhood Development and School Readiness. Chief Conway focused primarily on discussing home visiting in Virginia and ways in which the Commonwealth can strengthen home visiting. She highlighted that the Early Impact Virginia Leadership Council convened to address the legislative mandate to coordinate and direct Virginia's investment in home visiting. Additionally, she outlined who is working on the Council, its mission, and its specific areas of focus.

Chief Conway also discussed that Virginia applied for a \$13.9 million grant through the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five. She explained how this funding would be used and what Virginia would include in its efforts. She noted that Virginia's application is unique and highlighted the different approaches that the application takes.

**III. Update from the Work Group on Nutrition and Food Security**

Assistant Secretary Heidi Hertz provided an update on the most recent meeting of the Work Group on Nutrition and Food Security. She noted that the work group

participants spent time reviewing the discussion points from the October Children's Cabinet meeting and identified strategies and next steps for their action items.

Assistant Secretary Hertz noted that VDH is applying for a USDA grant to pilot local WIC outreach and reviewed other next steps that the Children's Cabinet could look at and keep in mind, such as establishing a target for Farm to School and facilitating state agency involvement in the expansion of farmers' market nutrition programs.

Assistant Secretary Hertz provided an update on the Hunger Vital Signs project that the Children's Cabinet encouraged them to look into. She noted that the DSS/211 pilot had been completed and that the VDH/WIC pilot and AAP/CHKD pilot planning was ongoing. She reviewed the findings of the DSS Hunger Vital Signs Pilot and the 211 referrals.

#### **IV. Update from the Work Group on Student Safety**

Secretary Moran invited Assistant Secretary Nicky Zamostny to provide the Children's Cabinet with an update of recent developments and accomplishments related to the recommendations of the Work Group on Student Safety. These updates included how Secretaries have been working with agencies to implement administrative recommendations of the work group.

Additionally, Assistant Secretary Zamostny noted two key grants that Virginia received for funding to support threat assessment in schools and grants for SRO/SSO positions. Lastly, she highlighted the recent budget proposals announced by the Governor for a strategy to address ratios for school counselors and to support the Virginia Center for School Campus Safety.

#### **V. Presentation from the Work Group on Trauma-Informed Care**

Deputy Secretary Gena Berger presented an interim report from the Work Group on Trauma-Informed Care. The report included four primary recommendations, which Deputy Secretary Berger detailed throughout her presentation. Deputy Secretary Berger contextualized examples through the lense of housing and drug treatment courts, to illustrate what trauma-informed care looks like and the SAMHSA framework.

Discussion of the recommendations included and focused on:

- 1) Virginia's child and family-serving agencies should adopt the SAMHSA definition and framework for trauma-informed care.

- 2) The Governor should convene an internal “Trauma-Informed Care Steering Committee” to coordinate executive branch work.
- 3) Develop a strategic plan for recruiting, training, and supporting a trauma-informed workforce in Virginia’s child and family-serving sectors.
- 4) Develop a dashboard of short and long-term metrics the executive, legislative, and judicial branches can use to assess progress in developing a trauma-informed system of care and the outcome measures leaders should expect to see as a result.

The Children’s Cabinet unanimously endorsed the interim report from the Work Group on Trauma-Informed Care.

## **VI. Public Comment**

Margaret Nimmo Holland from Voices for Virginia’s Children provided an update on their areas of focus and priorities, including their launch of a Trauma Informed Care Campaign.

Kathy Glazer from the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation informed the Children’s Cabinet of the efforts of the VECF and the Chamber to bring forward legislation to put in law a vision for the early childhood education system.

## **VII. Adjournment**

First Lady Pamela Northam closed the meeting by thanking the members of the Children’s Cabinet and those in attendance.